

Summative Assessment

The Sniper by Liam O'Flaherty

Read the following:

"Cautiously he raised himself and peered over the parapet. There was a flash and a bullet whizzed over his head."

1. In this event, does the sniper experience internal or external conflict? Explain why.
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Read the following:

"Then round the corner of a side street came an old woman, her head covered by a tattered shawl. She began to talk to the man in the turret of the car. She was pointing to the roof where the sniper lay. An informer."

2. How does this section create suspense? Explain why.
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Read the following:

"The sniper looked at his enemy falling and he shuddered. The lust of battle died in him. He became bitten by remorse. The sweat stood out in beads on his forehead. Weakened by his wound and the long summer day of fasting and watching on the roof, he revolted from the sight of the shattered mass of his dead enemy. His teeth chattered, he began to gibber to himself, cursing the war, cursing himself, cursing everybody."

3. The sniper has succeeded in killing his enemy. Does this event create internal or external conflict? Explain why.
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Read the following:

"He paused for a moment, considering whether he should risk a smoke. It was dangerous. The flash might be seen in the darkness, and there were enemies watching. He decided to take the risk."

4. In this event, how does the author create both suspense and conflict?
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Write your own:

Identify two additional sections within the text (not listed above) – one which creates suspense and another which indicates conflict. Write the events and explain reasons for each.

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